

What is claimed is:

[Claim 1] A memory card for a digital television decoder comprising an interface for communication with a decoder; a conditional access circuit; a memory block having a separate data memory area for recording data; and a controller for controlling a transfer of data between the conditional access circuit and the memory block and for controlling a flow of data directly between the memory block and the interface for communication with the decoder.

[Claim 2] The card according to claim 1, wherein data in the memory block are stored in form of files wherein a header of each of the files contains fields, which identify the file and define conditions for replay of the file.

[Claim 3] The card according to claim 2, wherein the field defining the conditions for replay of the file describes an allowed number of file replays, an internal activation code, a replay size condition, a time of last replay of the file and the number of executed replays.

[Claim 4] The card according to claim 2 wherein the fields, which identify the file, describe a file identifier, a file type, extended information about the file and additional information.

[Claim 5] The card according to claim 1, wherein data, stored on the separate data memory area are related to a program application for the digital television decoder.

[Claim 6] The card according to claim 1, wherein data stored on the separate data memory area are related to audio/video data.

[Claim 7] The card according to claim 1, wherein data recorded on the separate data memory area are related to audio data.

[Claim 8] A method of processing data in a digital television decoder, equipped with a memory card, containing an interface for communication with the decoder, a conditional access circuit and a memory block comprising the steps of:

setting a separate data memory area in the memory block; storing data in form of files in the data memory area, each file having a header with information identifying the file and conditions for replay of the file; checking the conditions for replay before replay of the data; and allowing to replay the data when the conditions for replay are met.

[Claim 9] The method according to claim 8, wherein at recording data it is checked if the data, which are to be recorded have specified conditions for replay and if the conditions are specified, the conditions are stored in the file header, and if the conditions are not specified, the default conditions are stored in the file header.

[Claim 10] The method according to claim 8, wherein the card communicates through a PCMCIA interface of the decoder.

[Claim 11] The method according to claim 8, wherein in case of lack of space for recording data, a list of data for removal is presented to the user, and next after the user selects specific data, they are removed from the memory and the attempt to record data is resumed.

[Claim 12] The method according to claim 11, wherein when a list of data for removal is presented to the user, the data whose removal will free the required space in memory, is highlighted.

[Claim 13] The method, according to claim 12, wherein the list of data presented for removal is arranged according to the number of executed replays.

[Claim 14] The method according to claim 8, wherein at storing information identifying the file, the file identifier, the file type, extended information about the file and additional information are stored.

[Claim 15] The method according to claim 8, wherein at storing information identifying the conditions for replay of the file, the allowed number of file replays, the internal activation code, the replay size condition, the time of last replay of the file and the number of executed replays are stored.

[Claim 16] The method according to claim 12, wherein before replay of data a decision is made to replay data from the beginning or from the time of last replay.

[Claim 17] The method according to claim 14, wherein during data replay the amount of the replayed data is compared with the file replay size condition and when the size of the replayed data exceeds the file replay size condition, the number of executed file replays is increased by one.

[Claim 18] The method according to claim 14, wherein after the data replay is stopped, information about the time of last replay of the file is recorded in the file header.

[Claim 19] The method, according to claim 14, wherein the allowed number of file replays is modified after entering the external activation code matching the internal activation code.

[Claim 20] The method according to claim 8, wherein the data stored in the data memory area are related to program applications for the digital television decoder.

[Claim 21] The method according to claim 8, wherein the data stored in the data memory area are related to audio/video data.

[Claim 22] The method according to claim 8, wherein the data stored in the data memory area are related to audio data.

[Claim 23] A method of rental of memory cards with films comprising the steps of:
settling conditions of a card rental before the rental of the memory card;
recording conditions of a card rental on the card;
recording the number of executed film replays while using the card;
reading the number of executed film replays after the return of the memory card; and
defining the time of a card rental and calculating the rental fee according to an algorithm.

[Claim 24] The method of rental of memory cards according to claim 23, wherein the conditions of card rental are predefined.

[Claim 25] The method of rental of memory cards according to claim 23, wherein the rental fee depends on the type of the film, production date, viewing rate, special offers for particular films, the number of executed film replays and rental time.